

WILMINGTON JOURNAL.

Friday Morning, August 24, 1849.

DEEP RIVER IMPROVEMENT.—The following extract of a letter, received from Dr. Hill, of Brunswick county, dated "Pittsboro", N. C., August 18th, by a gentleman of this town, will be interesting to a large number of our readers:—

"It affords me great pleasure to inform you, and through you the community at large, that the Engineer, Col. Thompson, having just completed the specifications, secured the right of way, and made terms for materials for the river improvement from Fayetteville to Haywood's, has this day contracted for the execution of the work between those two points, and on terms quite within the limits of his original estimates.

"This completely dissipates any doubts which may have existed as to the accomplishment of the work. The materials are being prepared, and the work will be commenced as soon as they can be delivered. Mr. Jones, a contractor on the Wilmington Road, has taken most of the contracts between those points. I learn from the President of the Company that the remainder of the River above will be let as soon as the preliminaries can be arranged."

THE MANCHESTER ROAD.—A private letter from Gen. Harlee, states that the meeting of the Directors, held recently at Sumterville, was attended by a large number of citizens. The utmost harmony prevailed. Gen. H. states that the additional subscription taken in old Sumter will exceed \$20,000. No doubt is now entertained that the South Carolina State subscription can be easily secured when deemed necessary.

RECEIVED.—The July number of the Westminster Review. It is filled with its usual variety of spirited and able articles, of course including one upon the universal topic of Hungary.

THE COMMERCIAL BANK of this town has made an arrangement to have its bills received on deposit at the Bank of Charleston.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS of the Wilmington and Raleigh Railroad Company, on Saturday last, elected Capt. J. E. Lowton, Steam Boat Agent, in place of John A. Taylor, Esq., resigned.

NORTH CAROLINA UNIVERSITY.—We are gratified to learn, says the Raleigh Register, that seventy new Students have entered this Institution the present Session, and that others are on the way. The roll of Students now contains one hundred and sixty-six names.

THE LAST CHRONICLE corrects our statement of last week, that the Democrats have gained five members of Congress in the August elections which have just terminated. That paper says that the Democratic gain is only three. In this it is most probably right; but our report was in accordance with information gleaned from the papers of both parties, and believed to be correct at the time by both. Our error, after all, is but one member. We stated that we had gained four members, possibly five. It seems that we have only gained three. However, the full table, both from Democratic and Federal authorities, will be found in another column, and the reader can compare for himself.

Our expression that we had gained four members of Congress, "and Democratic Governors and Legislatures in Tennessee, Indiana and Alabama," should have been "and elected Democratic Governors," &c., as regards the two last named States. In Tennessee it is a gain—a most glorious gain. The apparent misstatement was simply the result of haste in writing, and could mislead no one who read the annexed returns, wherein it is expressly stated that a Democratic Governor and Lieutenant were elected in Indiana by "increased majorities," of course precluding the idea of a gain. In Alabama there was no opposition. The Democratic majority in the Legislature of that State is some fifteen or sixteen on joint ballot. Finally, we do hope our joint ballot. Finally, we do hope our joint ballot.

NEW YORK.—The Hunker and Barnburner Conventions at Rome, adjourned *sine die*, on the 18th instant, without having been able to come to any agreement or understanding in regard to uniting the two divisions of the party in New York. They split upon the slavery question. The Barnburner or Free-soil party insisting that a resolution expressive of the sense of the Joint Convention in opposition to the extension of slavery, and affirming the power of Congress to exclude it from the territories, should be passed. The Hunkers would not admit the power of Congress, although they were opposed to the extension of slavery. They considered the matter of slavery in the territories as one with which neither they nor Congress have anything to do. Of course, the Whigs are rejoiced over the failure of this Democratic attempt at union, as it gives them the State for one year more.

THE NEW YORK HERALD.—Last week we made a quotation from the New York Herald, denouncing the present administration. We did this on the ground that "straws show which way the wind blows." We then believed that the Herald would not say so unless forced by the direct pressure of public opinion. We think so yet. Our reason for so thinking was, that that paper has always been a Taylor paper, and, of course, confessions against itself, or its own side, have the greater weight, as not being voluntary. The natural inference is that Bennett finds it necessary. "Rats desert a falling house." His denunciations of Mr. Polk stand on a different basis. That of known opposition, and deserve no more attention than would those of our neighbor, the Chronicle, and everybody knows what they amount to.

MURDER IN WAYNE COUNTY.—A most lamentable occurrence took place in Wayne county, some seven miles from Waynesboro', about the middle of last week. A man named Thomas Price, a resident of said county, while, as is believed, laboring under a fit of insanity, killed his two youngest children, by beating them to death, one with a stick, the other with a musket. He has since been lodged in jail. It is only about twelve months since he recovered from a previous derangement.

LETTER FROM MR. COLLAMER.—The Federal press, South, is engaged in publishing the annexed letter from Jacob Collamer, General Taylor's Postmaster General, in order to repel the imputation that he is an Abolitionist. Let the letter speak for itself. When our readers have perused it carefully, they will know what importance to attach to it, especially when it is taken in connection with certain recent events which we will bring to their minds. The letter is addressed to a citizen of Alabama, and is as follows:—

WASHINGTON CITY, July 10, 1849.

DEAR SIR: I received yours of the 29th ult., in which you say that in the exciting Congressional canvass in your district in Alabama, I am charged with being "a downright Abolitionist," and that the Democratic candidate calls me "a blackhearted sulphureous Abolitionist." You seem to desire me to defend myself.

You, and all men of ordinary discernment, must be sensible that those who use such epithets, generally regard the people they address as ignorant and excitable enough to be influenced more by vituperation and personal abuse than either by facts or reason. It is therefore a course which cannot be stopped by anything that I can either say or do; all I can say is, that I am not now, nor have I ever been, an Abolitionist, and have always received the most bitter opposition from the abolition party in my own State. I have always held that nothing should be done by the general government in relation to the subject of slavery in the several States. I have always disapproved and opposed all measures, public or private, intended to interfere with or disturb the institution as existing within the States, as recognized by the constitution. At the same time it is due to justice and myself to say, I am an anti-slavery man, that I regard slavery as a very great political and moral evil, and think nothing should be done by this government to increase or extend it.

You say Mr. Inge informs the people that, as Postmaster General, I can send by the mails or withhold therefrom any documents I wish, and that since I have been Postmaster General the South has been flooded with abolition documents.

Now, sir, I have had, in Congress, some personal acquaintance and intercourse with Mr. Inge, and it is extremely difficult for me to believe he could ever be guilty of such gross and palpable misrepresentation. It certainly could not be necessary for any one to write to me for information to meet so obvious a falsehood. The Postmaster General has no power, direction, or control over the matter to be mailed. It is regulated entirely by law. The laws of Congress establishing and regulating the Post Office Department are in all parts of the country open and accessible to all men. These laws give neither to any postmaster nor to the head of the department any authority or control whatever over any printed paper or letter which any person may think proper to convey by mail. When such a paper or letter, properly directed, is presented to a postmaster to be mailed, he has no right or power, nor has the Postmaster General any authority to give him power, to open and examine it to ascertain its contents, or to suppress or refuse to mail it. No Postmaster General ever attempted the exercise of any such power; and precisely the same instructions, regulations, rights, powers, and duties exist now in the department and offices which have existed for many years before my accession to office, and no other. All this is known, or can be known, to any man who desires to know the truth. How gross and unjustified, then, must the representations of any man who attempts to make the people believe that I am, or this administration, or even the President is in any degree answerable for the sentiments contained in the printed and written papers which all men are at liberty to suppress or refuse to mail. And which no one has the power to prevent.

I am, sir, your humble servant,

JACOB COLLAMER.

TO THOMAS P. CRAWFORD, Alabama.

It will be observed, in reading the above letter, that the only interference with slavery which Mr. Collamer disavows, is with it as it exists in the States. Now, be it remembered, that neither Giddings, Hale, Corwin, nor any other, even the most notorious Abolitionist, pretends to interfere with slavery in the States. Their blows are aimed at its extension into the territories, or its existence in the District of Columbia. Mr. Collamer, even in his letter, avows himself opposed to its extension. How far he is willing to carry that opposition, may be better understood by looking at a few of his votes while a member of the House of Representatives.

He voted against the 21st Rule, which excluded Abolition petitions. Consequently he voted for their reception. He voted against the admission of Texas as a slave State, even after it had been annexed, in conformity to the joint resolutions of Congress, passed at the previous session. He voted for the Wilmot proviso attached to the three million bill. He voted for Mr. Root's resolution instructing the Committee on Territories to bring in a bill providing a territorial government in California and New Mexico, with a clause excluding slavery therefrom. He has uniformly voted for every proposition to abolish slavery and the slave trade in the District of Columbia. Nay more; he even voted in the last session of Congress for Giddings' infamous proposition to allow the slaves in the District of Columbia to vote on the question of their own emancipation; and in last January, he voted against Mr. Meade's resolution directing a bill to be brought in providing effectually for the apprehension and delivery of fugitive slaves, under the provisions of the constitution.

Is this man, then, who has gone as far as the farthest, in everything that marks an abolitionist, both in words and deeds, an abolitionist or not? Is his equivocal, non-committal letter—a letter which absolutely commits him to nothing—sufficient to free him from this imputation? We think not, and we don't see how any plain, honest man can come to a contrary conclusion. We wonder if our friends of the Federal press think they can pull wool over the eyes of the people by such transparent tricks?

THE MOSQUITO DIFFICULTY.—The Washington correspondent of the Baltimore Sun says:—"The Allegany, it is understood, has been dispatched to the Mosquito coast, in consequence of information having been received that the Mosquito authorities, i. e. the British, were assuming a belligerent attitude towards our citizens, who had certain privileges granted them by the Nicaraguan government. The American government is determined to put an end to British interference on that coast, at all hazards."

POPULATION OF CHICAGO.—The census of Chicago was recently taken, and shows a population of 22,850. The population in August, 1848, was 19,724, making a difference in favor of 1849, of 3,220.

GEN. OUDINOT has apologized amply for the outrage committed by his soldiers in entering the American Consul's house at Rome. They did not know where they were.

THE NEXT HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.—We subjoin two approximate calculations of the probable political complexion of the next House of Representatives, one from the *Washington Union*, Democratic, and the other from the *New York Express*, Federalist. It will be seen that they differ somewhat in the conclusion at which they arrive, but all seem to concede that the handful of Free-soilers will hold the balance of power, and also, that there will be no working majority on either side, even giving the Free-soilers to the sides to which their different political affinities might lead them, apart from the slavery question:—

From the *Washington Union*, Democrat.

House of Representatives, 31st Congress.	Dem.	Whig.	Free-soil.
Maine	5	2	—
New Hampshire	2	1	—
Massachusetts	—	8	1
Connecticut	3	1	—
New York	1	32	1
Rhode Island	—	1	—
New Jersey	1	4	—
Pennsylvania	8	15	1
Delaware	—	1	—
Virginia	14	1	—
North Carolina	3	6	—
South Carolina	7	—	—
Georgia	4	4	—
Florida	10	8	2
Illinois	6	1	—
Michigan	2	1	—
Indiana	8	1	—
Wisconsin	2	1	—
Iowa	1	—	—
Missouri	5	—	—
Arkansas	1	—	—
Kentucky	4	6	—
Tennessee	7	4	—
Alabama	5	2	—
Texas	2	—	—
Florida	—	1	—
Total	102	102	9

To be elected—Estimate.

Dem.	Whig.	Free-soil.
102	102	9

From the *New York Express*, Federalist.

House of Representatives, 31st Congress.	Dem.	Whig.	Free-soil.
Maine	5	2	—
New Hampshire	2	1	—
Massachusetts	—	8	1
Connecticut	3	1	—
New York	1	32	1
Rhode Island	—	1	—
New Jersey	1	4	—
Pennsylvania	8	15	1
Delaware	—	1	—
Virginia	14	1	—
North Carolina	3	6	—
South Carolina	7	—	—
Georgia	4	4	—
Florida	10	8	2
Illinois	6	1	—
Michigan	2	1	—
Indiana	8	1	—
Wisconsin	2	1	—
Iowa	1	—	—
Missouri	5	—	—
Arkansas	1	—	—
Kentucky	4	6	—
Tennessee	7	4	—
Alabama	5	2	—
Texas	2	—	—
Florida	—	1	—
Total	102	102	9

To be elected—Estimate.

Dem.	Whig.	Free-soil.
102	102	9

RESULTS SO FAR.

Arkansas,	1	3	4
Connecticut,	1	—	—
Delaware,	1	—	—
Florida,	1	—	—
Georgia,	4	4	4
Illinois,	1	6	1
Indiana,	1	9	4
Iowa,	—	2	—
Maine,	—	2	5
Massachusetts,	9	—	9
Michigan,	1	1	—
Missouri,	—	5	—
New York,	32	2	23
New Jersey,	4	1	4
New Hampshire,	2	2	2
North Carolina,	6	3	6
Ohio,	10	10	10
Kentucky,	6	4	6
Pennsylvania,	15	9	17
Rhode Island,	1	—	—
South Carolina,	1	7	1
Tennessee,	4	7	5
Virginia,	1	14	6
Vermont,	2	1	3
Wisconsin,	1	2	—
Total,	107	104	110

This gives a "Whig and Free-soil" majority, so far, of three members. But in this are included Messrs. Giddings, Allen, and Allen, of Massachusetts and they are political comets whose orbit is very uncertain. In the Democratic Free-soilers are Messrs. Wilcox, of Pennsylvania, Preston King, of New York, and Cole, of Wisconsin, whose orbits are all uncertain. Mr. Holmes, of South Carolina, classed with the Democrats, is a Taylor man.

To be elected—Estimate.

	NEW CONGRESS.		OLD CONGRESS.	
	Whig.	Dem.	Whig.	Dem.
He	Rhode Island,	1	—	1
ting	Vermont,	1	—	1
bill	Mass. (vacancy)	1	—	1
for-	Maryland,	4	2	4
ing	Ohio, (vacancy)	—	1	—
not	Louisiana,	2	2	1
oted	Mississippi,	1	3	1
and	Texas,	—	2	—
a.—	Add chosen,	107	104	110
usion		117	114	119

This shows that the handful of Free-soilers will hold the balance of power, but the Whigs will have to work hard in the few coming elections to do as well as in the table we have laid out for them.

[According to the Tribune's table the whole number of Free-soilers elected is 13; of which number it classed 8 as Whigs and 5 as Democrats.]

THE TARIFF OF 1846.—The operation of this great and beneficent measure of public and economical policy continues to realize the most sanguine expectations of its friends. That its influence upon the great industrial interests of the country is most salutary, the prosperity which everywhere prevails most fully attests. And that the revenues suffer no diminution, we have the testimony of the friends of the administration to prove. Referring to the receipts of the custom-house in that city, the *New York Mirror*—a Taylor paper—remarks:—"Wash. Union."

A Million a Week.—Some idea of the commerce of the port of New York may be formed from the fact that if the business at the custom-house continues during the remainder of the week as heavy as it has been for the last three days, the duties will amount to, if not exceed, the round sum of a million of dollars. Yesterday was the heaviest day ever known in custom-house annals, the deposits in the cashier's office reaching two hundred and forty-five thousand dollars, an amount which exceeds by over twenty thousand dollars the receipts of any previous day.

The arrivals lately have been very numerous, the importations heavy, and the custom-house, spacious as it is, is daily thronged to a degree somewhat uncomfortable to all concerned.

A million a week has been reached once (and but once) before, under Mr. Lawrence's regime, and the new collector and his assistants are not destined, it seems, to have any easier times of it. Officers in the custom-house are no sinecures in such times as these, and yet there is no diminution in the number of patriots willing and anxious to serve their country—for a consideration.

See 4th page for foreign news, &c.

BURSTS OF ELOQUENCE.—The *Baltimore Argus* gives the following account of General Taylor's reception and speech at Baltimore. It is said that the General is going through Pennsylvania for the purpose of trying to have some effect upon the approaching election. Such bursts of eloquence should certainly produce a great effect. The *Argus* says:—

On reaching the hotel, he passed up quietly and rapidly to his apartments, which were watchfully guarded by officer Ridgely, ingress being refused to any but the suite and a few of the *distingues*. In the course of fifteen or twenty minutes about two hundred and fifty persons assembled in front of the hotel, and his Excellency, having in the meantime refreshed himself, came down, under the escort of Z. Collins Lee, esq., and addressed the meagre gathering from the portico. After taking off his hat, which he held in his right hand, he lit the clinking iron railing, then adjusting a pair of gold spectacles, and looking forward, he said to the auditory, who emitted a few sickly cheers akin to the chirpings of a brood of chickens with the pip, Gen. Taylor spoke, word for word, as follows:—

"I thank you, citizens of Baltimore. It affords me great gratification to meet so good a number of my friends on this occasion. The cholera is now lingering around us; and although I have no apprehensions from the disease, I feared that the gathering together of crowds of persons might bring on the disease; and being anxious to keep off the disease, I thought I would not myself, yet I thought I would not to any of my demonstrations that might tend to increase the disease. [Here he convulsively grasped the railing.] On my way North, in passing, I thought I'd stop here to night, and go along in morning. [A pause.] On my return, I shall be happy to meet the citizens of Baltimore, and take as many of them by the hand as I can. [Here he raised his right hand to his forehead, and heaved a sigh.] But I thought it better to avoid bringing together any crowds on my way, as the disease might be thereby increased, and I should afterwards reproach myself with being the cause."

Here the "Second Washington" signified the close of his speech by putting on his hat, and then turning abruptly away, a faint cheer caught up the dying echo of the last word "cause."

The General then retired to his apartments, to enjoy some repose after the tremendous intellectual effort, and in a few minutes the area in front of the hotel was vacant.

A correspondent of the *Pennsylvania* gives a report of his speech at Lancaster, Penn. The President being called for a speech, and finding escape hopeless, assumed a look of Roman firmness, threw up his spectacles, bobbed his head, and uttered the following eloquent and grammatical sentences:—

"I conceive that I am the President of the United States, and not of a particular party. I consider the majority of the people the sovereigns of this great republic, and I will carry out their wishes, be them democratic or be them whig, with the greatest of pleasure."

The correspondent says that the above is verbatim. As for the manner of its delivery, that is "easier conceived than described."

ANOTHER.—MAKE A MARK OF THIS.—At the borough of York, Pennsylvania, a procession was formed in honor of the President of the United States, and General Taylor made a speech. A correspondent of the *Baltimore Argus* gives the following sketch of the General's address:—

"FELLOW-CITIZENS AND LADIES: I cannot be expected, from the fatigue I have endured to-day, to make a speech to you to-day. I can only say, I thank you for this—kind only—reception. I can only say, I shall carry out the principles of the party that brought me into power. I thank you for the honor you have done me this day."

We repeat again, make a mark of this, for it is well worthy of it. Here is the President of the United States, making a speech to a mixed assemblage of his fellow-citizens, democrats as well as whigs, who have assembled to do him honor, and what does he say to them? "I shall endeavor to carry out the principles of the PARTY that brought me into power." And this is the man who was not to lend himself to party schemes—who would have received a nomination from any party, &c. Glorious consistency! Admirable propriety! Oh! shame, where is thy blush?

PATRICK COLLINS NOT A DEFAULTER.—In regard to the case of Patrick Collins, Collector at Cincinnati, Ohio, charged with being a defaulter for a considerable amount, the last intelligence we have is contained in the following which we clip from the Cincinnati Chronicle (whig.) of the 16th inst. It would appear that all the noise that has been made over Mr. Collins' default is so much fuss over a mare's nest. The Chronicle says:—

We are informed by a respectable gentleman of this city, conversant with the official conduct of Patrick Collins as Surveyor, Collector, &c. of this port, who is well advised as to the extent of the demand of the Government against Collins, and who knows the amount of funds in his hands, that he has counted out in hard money, to be handed over to his successor, the full sum claimed by the Government. We have no doubt of the sincerity of our informant, and shall sincerely rejoice if his statements be verified by an acquittance from the Government to Collins.

THE ABDUCTION CASE.—The Spanish Consul Bound Over.—The hearing in the great abduction case was concluded in New Orleans on the 17th instant, and resulted in the binding over for trial of the Spanish Consul, in the sum of \$5,000, and four others, McConnell, Lorenti, Maice, and Engle, in the sum of \$2,500 each.

UNITED STATES MINT.—The coinage at the U. S. Mint, in Philadelphia, during the month of July, was as follows:—

Gold coinage,	\$1,098,690
Silver,	28,000
Total,	\$1,126,690

NEW DISEASE.—It is said that a new epidemic has broken out among the Russian and Austrian soldiers in Hungary, which is known as the "lice pest." The individual is attacked by vermin under the skin, which increase until the whole body become one mass of corruption. Hitherto no remedy has been discovered and the person attacked is considered as doomed; and letters say "hundreds have, at their own solicitations, been thrown into the river to terminate their sufferings."

THE LATE PRESIDENT.—The *New Orleans Picayune* says, that Mr. Polk left behind him a fortune estimated at one hundred thousand dollars.

ELECTIONS IN IOWA.—The election in Iowa is said to have resulted favorably to the Democrats. No particulars received.

MASONIC DEDICATION.—We learn that the new hall of Union Chapter, in Duplin county, will be dedicated on the 6th proximo. The address on the occasion will be delivered by T. ALCOCK BURN, Jr., Esq., of this town. The brethren of the Order and the public generally, are invited and requested to be present.

VERY LATE FROM CUBA.—The *ABDUCTION CASE.*—The United States steamship *Falcon* arrived at New York on Saturday last from Havana, Cuba, whence she sailed on the 12th inst. The *N. Y. Herald* says:—

She brought 32 passengers from Chagres for New Orleans, and 23 from Chagres for New York; also, 44 feet of oranges, and 13 from Havana, the brings in freight \$169,085.50 in gold dust from Chagres, and \$121,000 in specie from New Orleans, and a full cargo.

We learn that great excitement existed in Havana, in regard to the abduction of the Spanish Rey from New Orleans, by the intervention and direct agency of the Spanish Consul in that city, in smuggling that man on board a ship and conveying him forcibly to Cuba, to answer to the authorities for offences committed on that island. From what we have learned of the matter, the American Consul suspected there was something wrong, and as soon as the vessel in which he arrived had reached Havana, the official demanded permission of the Cuban authorities to visit the vessel and have a conference with Rey. After some little delay the request was granted, but the Consul was accompanied by a Spanish officer and a file of soldiers, to the ship. As soon as all had appeared on the deck, Rey was interrogated as to whether he left New Orleans voluntarily, and of his own free will or not? He replied, under the influence of fear, that he did leave that city voluntarily. The Consul then remarked that he had nothing further to say, and with drew and went on shore.

Soon afterwards Rey was removed from the vessel and placed in prison, but in the meantime he managed to send two letters to the American Consul, stating that he was forced to leave New Orleans voluntarily, under threat, and he wished to retract his statement. Instead of leaving New Orleans voluntarily, he was forcibly abducted therefrom and conveyed to Havana, and he prayed the protection of the American government. As soon as our Consul received this startling intelligence, he applied to the authorities for permission to see Rey again. Three days after his application was made, he was informed by them that Rey was in prison, and that the Consul could have no interview with him.

Such was the position of this extraordinary matter at the time of the starting of the *Falcon*. The excitement which grew out of the matter was heightened by the appearance of the U. S. ship of war *Germantown* on the Havana waters. As soon as she came to anchor, she was boarded by the Cuban authorities, who made many inquiries, and manifested much anxiety to know the object of her visit. They seemed much pleased when informed that it had no reference to any special subject. The *Germantown* remained only twelve hours, and then sailed for the United States.

The *Falcon* brought a large pile of despatches from the American Consul, connected with the subject, which we hope the government will place before the public as soon as possible.

The diseases most prevalent at Havana in the month of July, were yellow fever, dysentery, diarrhea, and simple intermittent fever. Of yellow fever, 1305 cases were reported during the month, of which only 71 terminated fatally.

There was a slight earthquake at Porto Rico on Sunday, the 15th ult.

Accounts from Yucatan repeat the old story of Indian attacks and defeats. The *Mexican Bulletin* calls for more help from the national government.

ST. LOUIS.—It would seem, that spite of the ravages of fire and pestilence, the people of St. Louis have lost none of their energy nor enterprise. The burnt district is rapidly being rebuilt. The *Republican* says that:—

"Hundreds of men are busily employed, and there is more real encouragement to those who look forward for the restoration of this part of the town, than was before witnessed. We have taken some pains to assure ourselves as to the number of buildings already commenced, or contracted for, and we find that they reach one hundred. The greater proportion of them will be structures which will really do credit to our city, and, with widened streets and alleys, they will be most desirable places of business. A great many conveniences and comforts will be introduced, while the style of architecture will give relief to this part of the town. Commercial street, from Le